

**General Assembly**Distr.: General  
17 July 2006

Original: English

**Sixty-first session**

Item 88 (d) of the provisional agenda\*

**Review and implementation of the Concluding Document  
of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly****United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament  
and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean****Report of the Secretary-General***Summary*

The present report contains an account of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean during the period from July 2005 to June 2006.

Specifically, the Centre provided assistance to States in the region in the area of practical disarmament, such as weapons destruction and training courses; the preparation of national reports on weapons-related instruments; and the creation of mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of disarmament treaties. The Centre also provided forums for discussion among States to facilitate them reaching common positions on disarmament and non-proliferation issues. In addition, the Centre initiated the process of transferring to the African region its knowledge and best practices in the area of training courses for the law enforcement community on the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking.

In its efforts to support the "One United Nations System" policy and to assist States in a more efficient manner, the Centre identified ways and means to increase joint efforts with United Nations entities and/or international and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance to States in the region to enhance their capacity in addressing security and development challenges. It also endeavoured to integrate its activities, whenever possible, into those of United Nations agencies and country teams.

\* A/61/150.



## Contents

|                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>Paragraphs</i> | <i>Page</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| I. Introduction .....                                                                                                                                                         | 1-2               | 3           |
| II. Functioning and mandate .....                                                                                                                                             | 3                 | 3           |
| III. Activities .....                                                                                                                                                         | 4-44              | 3           |
| A. Promoting subregional and regional security .....                                                                                                                          | 5-33              | 3           |
| B. Contributing to global security .....                                                                                                                                      | 34-39             | 9           |
| C. Fostering peace and disarmament education .....                                                                                                                            | 40-44             | 10          |
| IV. Staffing, financing and administration .....                                                                                                                              | 45-48             | 11          |
| V. Conclusions .....                                                                                                                                                          | 49-51             | 12          |
| <br>Annexes                                                                                                                                                                   |                   |             |
| I. Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2004-2005 ..... |                   | 13          |
| II. Planned activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for which funding is sought .....      |                   | 14          |

## **I. Introduction**

1. In its resolution 60/84 of 8 December 2005, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it might carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate and to report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request and covers the Centre's activities from July 2005 to June 2006. A financial statement on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for the biennium 2004-2005 is contained in annex I. An outline of some planned activities of the Centre for which funding is being sought is provided in annex II.

## **II. Functioning and mandate**

3. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Lima, was established in 1987, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 41/60 J of 3 December 1986. The mandate of the Centre is to provide, upon request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development.

## **III. Activities**

4. During the period under review, the Centre responded to requests from States in the region and provided assistance in the following areas: promoting subregional and regional security; contributing to global security; and fostering peace and disarmament education. Activities undertaken in all of these areas were developed taking into account their intrinsic cross-cutting nature and the opportunities made available as a result of their interconnectedness.

### **A. Promoting subregional and regional security**

#### **1. Confidence and security-building measures**

5. Efforts by the Centre to foster confidence and security-building measures among States in the region during the reporting period were focused on activities that contribute to the strengthening of democratic values, enhancing transparency and increasing bilateral cooperation, notably where related to the development of defence policies and reporting on military procurement. In this connection, the Centre continued to serve as a resource to enhance debates on the basic guidelines for defence white books. It reached an agreement with the Government of Uruguay and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Uruguay to assist in the development of Uruguay's first defence white book.

## 2. Disarmament and development

6. During the reporting period, the Centre increased its efforts in the areas of disarmament and development to promote policy dialogue; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration issues; good governance activities; and support to public security initiatives.

7. In this connection, one of the important initiatives undertaken by the Centre was reaching an agreement on policy coordination with various partners working on disarmament and development-related issues, such as the Government of Nicaragua, on behalf of the Central American Integration System (SICA), in Managua on 22 November 2005.

8. In December 2005 and March 2006, the Centre held discussions with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean on the elaboration of a strategic relationship between the Centre and the Regional Bureau to further incorporate disarmament and development activities into the assistance provided to States in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. Work is under way to finalize the drafting of a letter of exchange with specific guidelines on further cooperation.

9. On 1 May 2006, a basic standard agreement between UNDP-Costa Rica and the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs was signed to provide assistance to the Government of Costa Rica to reduce the negative impact of firearms violence and insecurity on human development. The assistance provided encompasses, inter alia, research initiatives, improvements to firearms legislation, capacity-building activities; planning of firearms-related activities in the capital and in other cities in the country with local governmental entities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); and the development of a firearms control campaign.

## 3. Regional clearing house on firearms, ammunition and explosives

10. The Centre's assistance to States in the area of firearms, ammunition and explosives has been directed at fostering ways and means of improving existing controls on their legal trade and at preventing illicit trafficking. The Centre's Regional Clearing House Programme aims at, among others, facilitating dialogue in support of the development of new legal instruments, signature and ratification of agreements, training courses, weapons destruction and improving national and regional coordination.

### *Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism*

11. The database on small arms developed by the Centre was endorsed at the meeting of the members of Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) at the principals level, held in New York on 21 December 2005. The database improves information-sharing among CASA members and contains CASA data on projects, events and activities carried out worldwide. The principals also approved the CASA strategic framework that serves as a guide for the Centre as the CASA regional focal point. To underline the importance of the mechanism and to enhance its coordination, the Centre organized a number of national CASA events in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Uruguay and Venezuela and a subregional CASA event in Nicaragua for Central American States.

12. In response to Colombia's request for assistance in the development of a new firearms observatory to increase its capacity in compiling information on firearms-related activities, a meeting with the participation of the Government, UNDP-Colombia, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)-Colombia, the World Centre for Research and Training in the Resolution of Conflicts in Colombia, the Netherlands and the Centre was held on 24 February 2005 to further discuss, inter alia, the creation of a working group to define the characteristics of the observatory and the elaboration of its functions and mandate.

#### *Transfer control initiative*

13. The efforts of the Centre and its partners in promoting improved transfer controls relating to the import, export and transit of firearms led to the adoption of a Central American code of conduct during a summit held in Nicaragua on 2 December 2005. The joint efforts included the organization of a regional conference in Guatemala, from 2 to 4 May 2006, which adopted the Antigua Declaration. The Declaration, which includes a component on the import, export and transit of firearms, represents a common regional position on the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking and was presented at the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in New York in June and July 2006.

#### *Legal firearms instruments*

14. A series of bilateral meetings between CASA members (UNDP-Brazil, UNODC-Brazil and the Centre) and the Governments of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay were held on 20 November 2005 in an effort to promote ratification of the Firearms Protocol by the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) States. At the Eighth MERCOSUR and Associated States Firearms and Ammunition Working Group Meeting held in Buenos Aires from 10 to 11 April 2006, the CASA partners encouraged ratification of the Protocol and the adoption of a common position on the import, export and transit of firearms.

15. For the third consecutive year, the Centre provided support to public security initiatives in the region through the organization of national firearms legislation seminars. From 14 to 15 September 2005, the Centre assisted in organizing a public security and firearms legislation seminar in Uruguay, in cooperation with the Government of Uruguay, the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (CICAD) and the Regional Public Security Training Centre in Brasilia. The seminar provided States with the opportunity to address public security issues in general and exchange lessons learned with regard to citizen security and firearms-related violence matters. Preparations for other seminars in this series are under way.

16. In response to requests for assistance from Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay in the drafting of their national reports on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action, the Centre developed and operationalized a methodological and procedural function in its Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration System to create an automated version of the United Nations Programme of Action report to facilitate the reporting.

17. A similar automated function of the System was developed to provide assistance to States in the preparation of national reports relating to the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials.

*Firearms, ammunition and explosives industry*

18. Substantive advancements were made during the reporting period in the development of the Centre's Integrated Weapons Management System (SIGA). The Centre intensified its coordination with the firearms and commercial sector industry and, in particular, Forensic Technology-Canada in Lima, with a view to enhancing programming capacity and quality of the information contained in the System. Peru was the first State in the region to receive assistance from the Centre in the application of the SIGA software system for the organization of its weapons stockpile facilities. The System's initial test phase began at the Peruvian Bureau for Security Services, Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives Control for Civilian Use, with the aim of adapting this software tool to the specific needs of this Peruvian national firearms registry. Paraguay and Uruguay also requested assistance to apply the SIGA system, following completion of the pilot phase.

19. As a contribution to Argentina's efforts to improve its capacity to combat crime involving illicit firearms trafficking and use, the Centre and its partners initiated a pilot project in Argentina in March 2006. The project involves the use of a firearms identification, registration and ballistic forensic system, including the use of the IBIS BrassTRAX hub, to link so-called unrelated crimes committed with the same firearm and to identify illicit firearms cases. This initiative represents the first of its kind, marking the beginning of the establishment of a region-wide forensic network aimed at assisting States in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action.

*Law enforcement initiatives*

20. The final phase of a series of training courses to assist States in improving control of the legal firearms trade and prevent illicit trafficking was initiated by the Centre in August 2005 in the Southern Cone — Brazil and Paraguay. A total of 128 law enforcement officials in the two countries received training in August and from November to December 2005 respectively. Currently, work is under way to organize 12 additional training courses in six different countries in the region, which will result in the training of 720 officials by the end of 2006. Coordination was also intensified among the Regional Public Security Training Centre, the Regional Disarmament Centre and its partners to ensure the timely execution of training courses for more than 5,000 officials in 33 countries in the region by December 2007. Moreover, the Training Centre border initiative was launched at the Sant'Ana do Livramento-Rivera border between Brazil and Uruguay in November 2005. The initiative was aimed at intensifying joint actions to be supported by the Centre in various countries in the region.

21. In resolution 2179 (XXXVI-O/06), adopted by the Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly on 6 June 2006, the OAS General Secretariat was requested to continue working with the Centre and its partners to prepare and offer specialized courses on special techniques for investigating the illicit manufacturing

of and trafficking in firearms and ammunition, and on national registries, where appropriate.

22. An agreement on cooperation was reached in February 2006 by the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean to develop synergies between the two regions in the fight against illicit firearms trafficking. Under this agreement, law enforcement training courses and databases, developed by the Regional Centre in Latin America and the Caribbean and its partners, will be made available in Africa. A package of training kits is currently being developed to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and best practices to the African Centre with a view to assisting that Centre in the organization of courses on the African continent.

#### *NGO capacity-building*

23. To illustrate the impact of illicit firearms trafficking on the lives of people on a daily basis in Rio de Janeiro, the Centre cooperated with the Brazilian NGO, Viva Rio, in the filming of a "UN in Action" video episode on behalf of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Public Information. The 5-minute episode describes the illicit firearms problem in general as well as the efforts undertaken by NGOs and other actors in Brazil to alleviate the human suffering caused by firearms-related violence.

24. A national civilian disarmament network was established on 18 July 2005 in Lima by Peruvian NGOs to promote a culture of peace with the overall aim of enhancing participation of civil society in the implementation of Andean Community decision 552 on the Andean plan to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and the United Nations Programme of Action. In addition, an offer was made by the NGOs present to assist States, in cooperation with the Centre and its partners, in the implementation of firearms-related instruments.

#### *2006 Lima Challenge and gender mainstreaming*

25. 1,512 firearms were destroyed as part of the Centre's assistance package to the Government of Uruguay in September 2005. The provision of such assistance is an integral part of the Centre's 2006 Lima Challenge project, which has to date assisted in the destruction of 40,902 firearms; 361,369 units of small calibre ammunition; 150.44 tonnes of large calibre ammunition; and 120 explosive sticks. It also supported the removal of 27,000 firearms from the region as well as the improvement of three stockpile facilities in the past five years.

26. In addition to providing assistance to States in the destruction of weapons and improving the security of firearms storage facilities, the Centre also received requests to develop training courses on these activities in cooperation with the Organization of American States (OAS). The General Assembly of OAS expressed its continued interest in cooperating with the Centre and its partners in the preparation and offer of specialized courses in the destruction of small arms and light weapons and ammunition, and in stockpile management.

27. As part of the efforts to implement the United Nations system-wide action plan on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, the

Centre and its partners actively promoted the participation of women in peace and security-related issues. In this connection, female army officers participated in Uruguay's weapons destruction event in September 2005, supported by the Government of Uruguay and the Centre, specifically with regard to registering the firearms to be destroyed and ensuring compliance with weapons security rules and regulations, both prior to and during the destruction event.

*Cooperation with other entities and outreach*

28. The Centre enhanced its coordination with different entities within the United Nations system with a view to intensifying synergies and avoiding duplication in the use of human, material and financial resources. New cooperation initiatives were launched with the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Public Information, and UNDP country offices in Colombia, Jamaica, Uruguay and Venezuela, UNODC offices in Brazil, Colombia and Vienna, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. The majority of the activities undertaken consisted of the organization of training courses for the law enforcement community on the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking. In some cases, as in Brazil and Colombia, new staff members of the Centre were assigned to work in United Nations country offices.

29. In an effort to further develop its communication strategy and improve the skills of staff in this area, the Centre invited a representative from the United Nations Department of Public Information to Lima to present the first capacity-building course on United Nations rules and procedures related to the making and distribution of various audio-visual products. The course provided an opportunity for discussion on the development of a joint public information campaign for the region aimed at raising awareness of the Centre's activities. The meeting also led to a request from the Department of Public Information for the Centre to produce a "UN in Action" video on the impact of the United Nations Programme of Action on illicit firearms trafficking in Brazil. This cooperation will serve as a first step towards wider cooperation between the two entities, whereby the Department of Public Information will guide and assist the Centre in the development of a communication campaign to commemorate the Centre's 20th anniversary in 2006.

30. On 23 February 2006, the Centre and the World Centre for Research and Training in the Resolution of Conflicts in Colombia agreed to cooperate on the evaluation of national law enforcement training courses, the elaboration of training manuals for decision-makers and youth on security-related issues as well as the development and maintenance of country profiles. A minimum of 500 officials are expected to receive training through this initiative, with additional support from UNDP and UNODC-Colombia offices. One staff member of the Centre will be assigned to work in the Centre for Research and the Resolution of Conflicts so as to further enhance this cooperation.

31. The Centre also reached an agreement with the Spanish Agency for International Development in November 2005 to organize joint activities in three of the Agency's training centres located in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia; Cartagena, Colombia; and La Antigua, Guatemala. The first such activity resulted in the organization of a conference in the Agency centre in La Antigua from 2 to 4 May 2006, during which States of the region adopted the Antigua Declaration (see para. 13 above).

32. To facilitate the compilation of information on regional peace, disarmament and development issues in a systematic and methodical fashion, the Centre began producing in September 2005 country factsheets on security and development issues. These factsheets will serve as a resource tool for obtaining reports on legal instruments and information on the status of treaty ratification and other security-related issues, as well as for the preparation of training manuals for courses to be jointly developed with the University for Peace and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education.

33. The Centre enhanced its outreach capacity and visibility in Brazil by initiating cooperation with the United Nations Information Centre-Brazil in Rio de Janeiro in June 2006. This involves the placement of news articles and press releases on activities undertaken by the Regional Centre in Brazil in magazines, newspapers and web pages, and will serve as an example of coordination arrangements with other United Nations Information Centres (UNICs) in the region.

## **B. Contributing to global security**

34. During the reporting period, the Regional Centre continued its cooperation with intergovernmental treaty organizations to promote signature and ratification of treaties, as well as the development of mechanisms and procedures to facilitate the implementation of treaty obligations related to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles. It provided practical support in the preparation of Peru's first national report on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

35. The Centre also continued to cooperate with the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to promote entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. In particular, it provided consultative services during a regional workshop in Guatemala City from 19 to 21 September 2005, outlining the obligations and benefits of adhesion to the Treaty and reviewing the status of the current cooperation among member States and organizations in the region with respect to the Treaty. Participants at the workshop recommended that the Provisional Technical Secretariat and the Centre develop joint projects related to information exchange and the promotion of the Treaty's ratification.

36. In March 2006, in response to requests from States in the region, the Centre and the Provisional Technical Secretariat agreed to jointly publish a brochure that will contain information on concrete accomplishments and potential benefits derived from the signature and ratification of the Treaty, the development of a web-based discussion forum on Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty issues with information on points of contact at national institutions, relevant documents and publications, and a bulletin board for debate among experts and technical staff to share national experiences.

37. The Centre supported the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to increase the number of States in the region that accede to the Additional Protocol by assisting in the organization of a seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean on the verification of compliance with the obligations of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) held in Quito from 5 to 6 April

2006. The Centre assisted IAEA in the conduct of a series of bilateral consultations among 20 participating countries and engaged in informal discussions on the subject.

38. The Centre contributed to advancing the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) by undertaking joint initiatives with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). One such initiative involved the development of the Chemical Weapons Regional Assistance and Protection Network database designed to assist States in the implementation of article X of the Convention. The database was presented at the Seventh Regional Meeting of National Authorities of State Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean of the OPCW in Mexico City from 22 to 23 May 2006. Ten related follow-up technical meetings on the Network between Peru's Chemical Weapons Council and the Centre were also organized.

39. Technical and financial assistance was provided by the Centre to the Government of Peru in the preparation of its 2006 national report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

### **C. Fostering peace and disarmament education**

40. During the reporting period, the Centre undertook several initiatives aimed at building awareness and knowledge and promoting information exchange on peace, disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Focus was placed on assessing and identifying the role of the Centre in fostering innovative and practical activities in this area, in cooperation with major research institutes, treaty organizations, NGOs, universities and other entities.

41. In this connection, discussions were initiated in March 2006 between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Centre on the development of a peace, disarmament and non-proliferation education course. This included the development of a course for policy-makers and youth; the exchange of experiences and lessons learned among nuclear-weapon-free zones; and the preparation of audio-visual material on such zones. It also envisages the organization of a seminar to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in February 2007.

42. In support of Peru's new amnesty campaign (from 23 July 2005 to 17 September 2006), the Centre and its partners provided technical and financial support to the Peruvian Ministry of Interior, which regulates the possession of firearms, ammunition and explosives throughout the country. The Centre's support consisted of the production of visual and printed material, including a television spot, video, documentary and radio announcements, as well as 20,000 posters.

43. For the second consecutive year, the Centre and its partners supported an initiative aimed at complementing Peru's celebration of its National Day (28 July) with folklore and culturally-inspired events. The celebration, which characteristically consists of military-style parades, is used as a basis to develop a culture of peace. This initiative, which started with five municipalities and 61 schools in 2005, is now expected to cover nine municipalities in the metropolitan Lima area, 12 provinces in the country, and approximately 1,000 schools, thus increasing the number of participants exponentially.

44. Additional support by the Centre and its partners promoting the development of a culture of peace in the region included the preparation of a "weapons of peace" publication containing artwork by Argentinean artists made from the remains of destroyed firearms and ammunition. The publication portrays how instruments and symbols of violence can be transformed into objects that convey a message of harmony and life. The publication contains the photos of 85 sculptures that were made following two weapons destruction events that took place in Mendoza, Argentina, in 2002, and during which 5,004 firearms and 8,262 units of small calibre ammunition were destroyed.

#### IV. Staffing, financing and administration

45. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/60 J, the Centre was established on the basis of existing resources and voluntary contributions made by Members States and interested organizations for its core and programme functions. During the reporting period, voluntary contributions in the amount of \$1,672,188 were received. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union for their financial contributions to and support for the activities of the Centre, and to the Government of Peru, the host country, for its overall support of the Centre. Information on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for the biennium 2004-2005 is contained in annex I.

46. Parallel funding in the amount of \$74,191 was also made available for the Centre's activities from the voluntary Trust Funds for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme and the Global and Regional Disarmament Activities of the Small Arms Demobilization Unit of UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery and the United Nations Department of Public Information. A contribution agreement was signed with Sweden securing significant funding to the Centre for the duration of three years (2005-2007) in the amount of SKr 12 million. Several governmental entities, United Nations agencies and other institutions also contributed to the work of the Centre by sharing or absorbing the costs of joint events, personnel and/or material resources. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude for those contributions in support of the activities of the Centre.

47. The Centre has continued to adapt its programme of work to the realities and needs of the region. It has also continued to maintain its human resources capacity by including in its project proposals the staffing requirement for each project. During the reporting period, the human resources of the Centre were strengthened with the appointment on 1 May 2006 of a deputy director and a new associate expert on disarmament and development. To further enhance its human resource capacity, the Centre has created four additional associate expert positions, with the assistance of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and interest in these positions has been expressed by Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany and the Netherlands.

48. In addition, a new Intranet-based system created by the Centre became fully operational during the second semester of 2005. This online field operations management application was designed to meet the institutional needs of the Centre.

among them, the need to enhance the organization and flow of responses to requests received from Member States, as well as the need to upgrade the operation and infrastructure of the Centre and to enrich institutional information-sharing and facilitate monitoring of the Centre's activities by the Department for Disarmament Affairs in New York.

## V. Conclusions

49. The Centre continued to provide assistance in response to requests from States in Latin America and the Caribbean. During the reporting period, such requests have increased both in quantity and in scope. The Centre has also received an increasing number of requests for cooperation from regional and intergovernmental treaty organizations. The Centre has continued to strengthen its coordination and cooperation with a growing number of United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and departments in the field. The requests received for the Centre to provide long-term assistance to States through the development of courses on peace, disarmament and non-proliferation education for decision-makers and youth also represent an investment in current and future generations. The increase in demand for the Centre's assistance and cooperation has demonstrated the Centre's continued role as a viable regional actor in assisting States in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean. This may require that the Centre further adapt its strategies, policies and infrastructure so as better to serve States of the region.

50. Continued and sustained voluntary contributions provided by States to the Centre have been essential to ensure the operational and financial viability of the Centre and have enabled it to fulfil its mandate. In this context, financial contributions to the Centre made by States, in particular through their international development cooperation agencies, and the European Union have been key to sustaining the financial viability of the Centre.

51. The Secretary-General counts on the continued and increasing support and cooperation of Member States and organizations to ensure the effective functioning of the Centre.

## Annex I

# Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2004-2005

|                                              | <i>United States dollars</i> |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fund balance as at 31 December 2003          | 1 045 942                    |
| Income, 1 January 2004-31 December 2005      |                              |
| Voluntary contributions*                     | 2 313 754                    |
| Interest income                              | 66 075                       |
| Other/miscellaneous income                   | 43 296                       |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                              | <b>3 469 067</b>             |
| Expenditures 1 January 2004-31 December 2005 | 2 769 300                    |
| Refunds to donors                            | 1 493                        |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                              | <b>2 770 793</b>             |
| <b>Fund balance as at 31 December 2005</b>   | <b>698 274</b>               |

*Note:* Information is based on the statement of income and expenditure for the biennium 2004-2005 ending 31 December 2005. During the period from 1 January to 30 June 2006, additional contributions totalling \$989,080 were received from Colombia \$4,143, Sweden \$507,731, the United Kingdom (\$435,700) and the European Commission \$41,506.

- \* 2004: Colombia (\$2,500), Guyana (\$997), Mexico (\$5,000), Sweden (\$536,523), the United Kingdom (\$643,500), the European Commission (\$19,662), Save the Children Sweden (\$11,634) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (\$121,492).  
2005: Colombia (\$6,071), Guyana (\$987), Mexico (\$5,000), Panama (\$2,000), Peru (\$30,000), Sweden (\$528,598) and the United Kingdom (\$399,789).

## **Annex II**

### **Planned activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for which funding is sought**

#### **Project I**

##### *Title*

From Latin America and the Caribbean to Africa: Fostering South-South Cooperation to Combat Illicit Firearms Trafficking

##### *Purpose*

To develop an interregional cooperation initiative to facilitate the transfer to Africa of knowledge and best practices from law enforcement training courses on the control of the legal firearms trade and its illicit trafficking, developed by the Regional Centre, Interpol, the University of Peace and the Inter-America Drug Abuse Control Commission in Latin America and the Caribbean. This initiative covers the transfer of all tools developed by the Regional Centre and its partners to organize training-of-trainers courses in the region, which includes a training kit with detailed user's guide, procedures, manuals, samples and a complete database system to facilitate the organization of various courses simultaneously. The initiative will also include the adaptation of an African regional training course help desk to assist Member States, the United Nations and Interpol in the development of courses in the African continent. The organization of a series of workshops in various subregions of the two continents will ensure the proper transfer of knowledge and lessons learned.

##### *Latin America Locations*

Brasilia: Brazil

Lima: Peru

##### *African Locations*

Cairo: Egypt

Lome: Togo

Maputo: Mozambique

Yaoundé: Cameroon

##### *Duration*

Three-day workshops

##### *Number of participants*

4 countries in Africa

2 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean

*Cost estimates*

|                                                              | <i>United States dollars</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Travel of participants (160)                                 | 190 000                      |
| Travel of experts (40 from Interpol and the Regional Centre) | 80 000                       |
| Travel of staff (10 from the Regional Centre)                | 50 000                       |
| Interpretation (English, French, Portuguese and Spanish)     | 20 000                       |
| Development of training kits (kit, database and help desk)   | 69 000                       |
| Printing of training kits (70 units)                         | 35 000                       |
| Coordination expenses                                        | 25 000                       |
| Workshop documentation                                       | 20 000                       |
| <b>Total</b>                                                 | <b>489 000</b>               |

**Project II***Title*

Workshop to promote cooperation on the establishment of a Central American arms transfer register

*Purpose*

To facilitate the establishment of a Central American arms transfer register and establish parameters of cooperation on related follow-up activities in the subregion with States, the United Nations and regional organizations. This workshop aims to promote transparency and open dialogue on conventional arms transfers in the Central American subregion and serve as a pilot project for encouraging and facilitating the development of other subregional registers.

*Location*

Managua: Nicaragua

*Duration*

Two-day workshop

*Number of participants*

8 countries of the subregion: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Dominican Republic.

*Cost estimates*

|                                   | <i>United States dollars</i> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Travel of participants (16)       | 18 000                       |
| Travel of experts (7)             | 12 000                       |
| Travel of staff                   | 12 000                       |
| Interpretation (English, Spanish) | 5 000                        |
| Workshop documentation            | 5 000                        |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>52 000</b>                |

**Project III***Title*

Workshop series to provide follow-up on hemispheric security matters identified as priorities during the Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas

*Purpose*

To promote a dialogue among interested countries in the hemisphere on the follow-up of hemispheric security matters as analysed during the Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas to be held in Managua in October 2006. The workshops will bring together States, hemispheric and subregional organizations and partners to address in concrete terms inter-institutional cooperation and collaboration in order to further develop confidence and security-building measures in the region. Thematic areas will include, but not be limited to, advancing transparency measures, such as defence white papers; exchange on conventional arms registers and military budgets in the region; and cooperation among legislators on confidence- and security-building measures.

*Location*

Nassau: Caribbean Community States

Buenos Aires: MERCOSUR and associated States

Managua: Central American Integration System States

Quito: Andean Community States

*Duration*

Two-day workshops

*Number of participants*

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint

Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Cost estimates*

|                                                          | <i>United States dollars</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Travel of participants to 4 workshops                    | 70 000                       |
| Travel of experts to 4 workshops                         | 35 000                       |
| Travel of staff to 4 workshops                           | 25 000                       |
| Interpretation (English, Spanish, Portuguese and French) | 25 000                       |
| Workshop documentation                                   | 30 000                       |
| <b>Total</b>                                             | <b>160 000</b>               |